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Chairperson: Ms. Gittens-Joseph ..... (Trinidad and Tobago)

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00-74281 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 9 p.m.

Agenda item 109: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (*continued*) (A/C.3/55/L.70)

Draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.70: Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

1. **The Chairperson**, drawing attention to draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.70, said that it had no programme-budget implications, and recalled that when the text had been introduced the representatives of Bangladesh, Colombia, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States of America had requested that their countries should be added to the list of sponsors.

2. **Ms. Mint Mohamed Saleck** (Mauritania) said that, since the draft resolution had been introduced, Canada, Denmark, Ireland and Japan had joined the list of sponsors. In an attempt to improve the text, the sponsors had made a number of revisions. The first series concerned paragraph 19, in which the words "and all other actors" should be replaced by a comma and then "the parties to the conflict and all other relevant actors"; the words "and calls upon States" should be inserted before the words "to investigate fully"; and "requests" should be replaced by "calls upon". Another revision consisted in inserting a new paragraph 33 bis which would follow paragraph 33 and read: "*Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include the information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly".

3. **The Chairperson** announced that Canada, Chile, Croatia, Haiti, Honduras and Venezuela had joined the list of sponsors.

4. *Draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.70, as orally revised, was adopted.*

5. **The Chairperson** suggested that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/55/12), the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/55/12/Add.1), the report of the Secretary-General on a new international humanitarian order (A/55/545), the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (A/55/471) and the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (A/55/472).

6. *It was so decided.*

7. **The Chairperson** said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 109.

Agenda item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/C.3/55/L.61)

Draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.61: Organization of work of the Third Committee and draft biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2001-2002

8. **Mr. Xiong** (Chief, Documentation Programming and Monitoring Unit, Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services) informed the Committee that the following corrections had to be made to document A/C.3/55/L.61: on page 9, "Rev.1" had to be added to the document symbols of draft resolutions A/C.3/55/L.56 and A/C.3/55/L.47, and the reference to the draft resolution on human rights and scientific and technological progress (A/C.3/55/L.46) (2002) should be deleted; on page 11, the title of annex II should read "Draft biennial programme of work of the Third Committee for 2001-2002" and not "for 2000-2002"; on page 13, under item 7 of annex II a third document should be inserted under the heading "Documentation", entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.3/55/L.28); in the heading of item 8, the word "returnees" should be inserted between "refugees," and "and displaced persons"; under the heading "Documentation" in the same item 8, "Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa" (A/C.3/55/L.70) should be inserted at the end; under item 9, the document symbol of the draft resolution on the rights of the child should read

"A/C.3/55/L.18/Rev.2" and not "A/C.5/55/L.18/Rev.1"; on page 14, and still under item 9, the document symbol of the draft resolution should read "A/C.3/55/L.18/Rev.2" and not "A/C.5/55/L.18/Rev.1"; on page 15 under item 13 (b), "Rev.1" should be added to the document symbol of draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.48; on page 16, under the heading "Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested", "General Assembly resolution 54/167" should be replaced by "General Assembly resolution 54/163" at the end of the question entitled "Human rights in the administration of justice"; under the same heading, "Rev.1" should be added to the symbols A/C.3/55/L.47 and A/C.3/55/L.56; under item 13 (c), the symbol "A/C.3/55/L.42/Rev.1" should be replaced by "A/C.3/55/L.42/Rev.2" and "Rev.1" should be added to the symbol "A/C.3/55/L.62"; on page 17, under the heading "Questions for consideration for which no advance documentation has been requested", "Rev.1" should be added to the symbol "A/C.3/55/L.51"; on page 19, the word "returnees" should be inserted in the title of item 8 between "refugees'" and "and displaced persons"; under the same item, and at the end of the list of documents, "Report of the Secretary-General on a new international humanitarian order (A/C.3/55/L.66)" should be added; and on page 20, under item 13 (b) the reference to the question entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological progress (A/C.3/55/L.46)" should be deleted.

9. **Ms. de Carné** (France), referring to the draft resolutions on the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour (2002) and on the elimination of all forms of violence, including crimes, against women (2002) mentioned under item 6 (Advancement of women) of section E of annex I on page 6 of document A/C.3/55/L.61, pointed out that the titles of the draft resolutions did not respect the language agreed by the sponsors after lengthy deliberations, and requested the Secretariat to reinstate the official titles as they appeared in documents A/C.3/55/L.11/Rev.1 and A/C.3/55/L.13/Rev.1.

10. **Ms. Romulus** (Haiti) said that on page 17 of document A/C.3/55/L.61, under item 13 (c) of the draft biennial programme of work for 2001 in annex II, draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.64 should read "Situation of human rights in Haiti" and that mention of fundamental freedoms should be removed from the document in all the official languages.

11. **The Chairperson** said that if there were no objections she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft biennial programme of work for 2001-2002 (A/C.3/55/L.61), as orally amended.

12. *It was so decided.*

Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/55/3)

Draft decision

13. **The Chairperson** suggested that the Committee should take note of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/55/3), and particularly chapters I, III, IV, V and VII (sects. A, B, C and I) and chapter IX, which had been referred to the Third Committee.

14. *It was so decided.*

15. **The Chairperson** said that the Committee had completed its consideration of agenda item 12.

16. **Mr. Stephan** (Lebanon) said that he had been absent during the vote on draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.48/Rev.1, but if his delegation had been present it would have voted in favour of the text.

17. **Mr. Montwedi** (South Africa) said that owing to a technical error the name of his country did not appear on the list of sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.48/Rev.1, although South Africa had not only voted in favour of the draft but had been a sponsor of it both in the Commission on Human Rights and in the Third Committee. He would reconfirm the position when the draft resolution was submitted for adoption to the plenary Assembly.

18. **Mr. Aguzzi** (Venezuela) said he regretted that his delegation had not been present when draft resolution A/C.3/55/L.48/Rev.1 had been put to the vote, and wished to state that if it had been present it would have voted in favour of the draft.

Completion of the Committee's work

19. **The Chairperson** thanked delegations for their cooperation and the cordiality with which they had conducted their work. She expressed her gratitude to the members of the Bureau, the secretariat of the Third Committee, and particularly its Secretary, as well as the members of the Organization's Secretariat.

20. **Mr. Musa** (Nigeria), after thanking the Chairperson, the members of the Bureau and the Secretariat on behalf of the Group of 77 and China,

requested that the problem caused by the lateness of documents should be treated as a matter of priority.

21. After an exchange of congratulations and thanks, in which **Mr. Lebret** (France) on behalf of the European Union, **Mr. Belli** (Brazil) on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, **Ms. Štiglic** (Slovenia) on behalf of the Group of East European States, **Ms. Elliott** (Guyana) on behalf of the Caribbean Common Market, **Ms. Tokhtokhodjaeva** (Kyrgyzstan) on behalf of the Group of Asian States, **Mr. Heyward** (Australia) on behalf of the member States of the JUSCANZ Group, **Ms. Mint Mohamed Saleck** (Mauritania) on behalf of the Group of African States, **Ms. Mlangeni** (Swaziland) on behalf of the members of the Southern African Development Community, **Ms. Hajjaji** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) on behalf of the Group of Arab States and **Ms. Elisha** (Benin) on behalf of the Group of West African States took part, **the Chairperson** declared that the Committee had completed the work of its fifty-fifth session.

The meeting rose at 10 p.m.